

## Daily Plan ~ Day 8

Monday, June 14, 2004

Day Coordinators: Ed Sanderson and Clara Ruvolo,  
Palmyra Cove Nature Park



Estuary Portion: Palmyra Cove Nature Park to Pennsauken Creek at Route 73 and "cove" at Palmyra Cove Nature Park, 6 miles round trip (2 miles against the tide). Will be flora, fauna, and cultural features of Pennsauken Watershed and tidal cove.

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- 7:30 A.M. Breakfast at Palmyra Cove.
  - 8:30 A.M. Day-Trippers will register at Palmyra Cove Nature Park.
  - 9:00 A.M. Safety Talk and launch from Palmyra Cove Nature Park access.
  - 9:30 A.M. Explore the Pennsauken Creek Watershed (5 miles).
  - 12:15 P.M. Lunch at Route 73 restaurant adjacent to Pennsauken Creek.
  - 1:00 P.M. Catch out-going tide and paddle to tidal cove at PCNP.
  - 2:00 P.M. Explore "cove" at Palmyra Cove Nature Park (4 miles).
  - 3:00 P.M. Arrive at bank adjacent to interpretive center.
  - 3:30 P.M. Ice cream will be served
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Pennsauken Watershed - The Pennsauken Watershed drains 33 square miles and meanders through parts of eight communities in Burlington and Camden Counties. The major channel of the watershed is the Pennsauken Creek. The lower Pennsauken serves as the border between the Delaware riverfront towns of Palmyra and Pennsauken.

The Pennsauken Watershed reflects the history of the region. Beginning at the mouth, the south bank has a section of woods that includes the Morgan-Griffith house built in 1715. Manufacturing and mining were the principle land uses on the Pennsauken Township shoreline. Today, a large section belongs to the municipality of Pennsauken and is used for community services. The north bank near the mouth is bounded by the Palmyra Cove Nature Park.

The cove at Palmyra Cove Nature Park - Following lunch we will catch the outgoing tide back to the mouth of the Pennsauken Creek where it joins the Delaware River. The cove is about 20 yards north of the creek mouth and has similar flora and fauna.

The cove is a tidal wetland and is the most natural area of the 350 acre Palmyra Cove Nature Park. The falling tide should provide an opportunity to sight a snapping turtle or muskrat along the mudflats. Egrets, herons, and numerous water fowl will be seen. Bald eagles, osprey, and red-tailed hawks are other likely visitors.

*Many thanks to today's Sojourn Partners:*

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**Water height is highly relevant in the tidal Delaware section of the river for two reasons:**

1. High water can inundate the riverbanks and islands where flooded trees and vegetation can create what are known as "strainers". Strainers are very, very dangerous and can trap boats and people under water.
2. The quantity of water hazards such as large trees, lumber, logs, parts of man made objects such as docks float down the river at a faster rate making it difficult to see and/or navigate around. This floating debris can create a very dangerous situation.

**The Sojourn's Policy for the Tidal Delaware River is** – At water: 11-feet and above as measured at the Riegelsville Gauge – There will be No Sojourn "River" Trip – Alternate Land Activities will be offered.

### ALTERNATE LAND ACTIVITY

#### Ride The River Line

New Jersey Transit has just opened up its new River Line system that parallels the Delaware River from Trenton to Camden. The River Line is seen as a key to a renaissance of river communities that owe their origin and survival to the Delaware. The Delaware was the lifeblood of these communities from colonial times until the present.

Communities are recapturing the majesty of the river through trails and redevelopment of brownfield sites. The River Line offers a living history tour of our cultural and natural heritage. Our trip echoes the past but points to a vision of our future.

Join us for this all-day 9:00 am – 3:00 pm excursion from Palmyra to Camden to Trenton. Bring money for lunch. Many eateries have emerged in the last few years anticipating the opportunities created by the River Line.- Breakfast will be served at 8 a.m.

### U. S. Aids to Navigation System (ATON)

Buoys and markers are the "traffic signals" that guide operators safely along some waterways. They also identify dangerous or controlled areas and give directions and information. As a recreational vessel operator you will need to know the lateral navigation markers and non-lateral markers of the U. S. Aids to Navigation System.

#### Lateral Markers

These navigation aids are used to mark the edges of safe water areas; for example, to direct travel within a channel. They use a combination of colors and numbers, which may be applied to buoys or permanently placed markers.



**Red colors, red lights, and even numbers** indicate the right side of the channel as a boater enters from the open sea or heads upstream.



**Green colors, green lights and odd numbers** indicate the left side of the channel as a boater proceeds from the open sea or heads upstream.



**Red and green colors and/or lights** indicate the preferred (primary) channel. If green is on top, the preferred channel is to the right; if red is on top, the preferred channel is to the left.



**Lighted Buoys** use the lateral marker shapes, colors and numbers discussed above; in addition, they have a matching colored light.



**Nuns** are cone-shaped buoys marked with red colors and even numbers.



**Cans** are cylindrical-shaped buoys marked with green colors and odd numbers.



**Daymarks** are permanently placed signs attached to structures such as posts in the water. Common daymarks are red triangles (equivalent to nuns) and green squares (equivalent to cans) and may also be lighted.

#### EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

Palmyra Cove Nature Park 856-829-1900 x264

[www.delawariversojourn.org](http://www.delawariversojourn.org)